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ON DATE OF DEPOSIT: October 24, 2002  
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*Anne Vachon Dougherty* 10/24/02  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : October 24, 2002  
Y. Nakamura, et al : Group Art No.: 2155  
Serial No. 09/337,181 : Examiner: K. Dinh  
Filed: June 21, 1999 : for IBM Corporation  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Title: MESSAGE MULTICAST 3173 Cedar Road  
METHOD AND COMPUTER Yorktown Hts, NY 10598

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed simultaneously with the filing of an RCE for the above-identified patent application. The RCE responds to the Final Office Action dated July 24, 2002 for the above-identified patent application. The period for response is set to expire on October 24, 2002 and, therefore, this is a response within the three month statutory period and no additional fee is due. In response to the Office Action, the Applicants wish to submit the following remarks.

JA998-075

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